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From: Maier, Brent
Sent: Fri 5/20/2016 7:49:51 PM
Subject: U.S. EPA Press Release: EPA Awards \$550,000 to Assess and Clean Up Contamination in Henderson, Nevada

Dear Colleagues:

The following press release is being issued today by the EPA Region IX press office. If you have questions or need any additional information, please give me a call.

Regards,

Brent Maier
Congressional Liaison
Telephone: 415.947.4256



For Immediate Release: May 20, 2016

Media Contact: Margot Perez-Sullivan, 415-947-4149, PerezSullivan.Margot@epa.gov

EPA Awards \$550,000 to Assess and Clean Up Contamination in Henderson, Nevada

SAN FRANCISCO – Today, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency announced that the City of Henderson, Nev., will receive \$550,000 in federal funds to support revitalization and redevelopment along the Boulder Highway Corridor. Awarded through the Assessment, Revolving Loan Fund and Cleanup (ARC) grant program, these funds are part of \$55.2 million being invested in 131 communities across the country. The grants will be used to assess and clean up historically contaminated properties, also known as brownfields, for reuse and development.

“EPA is committed to helping Nevada safely clean up abandoned and contaminated sites and transform them into community assets,” said Alexis Strauss, EPA’s Acting Regional Administrator for the Pacific Southwest. “This project will provide valuable economic support to Henderson while protecting public health and the environment.”

ARC grants can be used to either assess a brownfield site (including inventory work and cleanup planning) or to conduct cleanup activities. This helps communities to recycle vacant and abandoned properties for new, productive reuses.

The City of Henderson will use the grant to conduct assessments along an 8-mile segment of the Boulder Highway Corridor (State Route 582), a key gateway between Las Vegas, Henderson, the Hoover Dam and Boulder City. The Boulder Highway has a long history of industrial and auto-related uses, including dealerships, auto-body shops and gas stations. Many properties along the highway are now abandoned and redevelopment is hampered by the potential presence of contamination. The grant will help the city implement the Southern Nevada Strong Regional Plan, which seeks to revitalize the Boulder Highway into an attractive, thriving, and functional corridor.

The ARC grants advance EPA’s broader commitment to coordinating federal

investments to help environmentally overburdened, underserved, and economically distressed communities address local priorities. Aligning federal resources allows agencies to better meet communities' needs and communities to more effectively reap the benefits of collaborative investments. ARC grantees demonstrate a high level of preparedness to undertake specific projects, as they have firm commitments of leveraged funds to move projects forward. Seventy percent of recipients have secured public and private resources that will directly align and further the efforts of proposed projects.

There are an estimated 450,000 abandoned and contaminated waste sites in America. Since the inception of the EPA's Brownfields Program in 1995, cumulative brownfields program investments have leveraged more than \$20 billion from a variety of public and private sources for cleanup and redevelopment activities. This equates to an average of \$17.79 leveraged per EPA brownfields dollar expended. These investments have resulted in nearly 109,000 jobs nationwide. EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities and other stakeholders to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields sites.

More on ARC grants: <https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/types-brownfields-grant-funding>

More on EPA's Brownfields Program: <https://www.epa.gov/brownfields>

More on successful Brownfields stories: <https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/brownfields-success-stories>

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